

CONGRESS.

An Abstract of the More Important Proceedings of Both Houses.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4.

Among the Executive communications presented and referred in the Senate was one from the Treasury Department asking an appropriation of \$75,000 for the improvement of Ellis Island, New York Harbor, for immigration purposes.

Among the petitions presented and referred was one from Boston importers of beer, ale, and porter, presented by Mr. Dawes (Mass.), against the provisions of the McKinley bill.

The Senate bill for the repayment to the State of Maryland of advances made for the use of the United States was reported and placed on the calendar.

The resolution for an inquiry into the management of the Fish Commissioner's office was agreed to.

The fortification bill was taken up, the pending question being on striking out two items for the Waterfront (N. Y. Arsenal), \$245,743 for the erection of the South wing, and \$750,000 for machinery for 12-inch guns, and inserting, in lieu of them, the following:

"For boring and turning lathes, rifling machine and 80-ton traveling crane, fully equipped for the manufacture of 12-inch guns, at Watervliet Arsenal, N. Y., \$255,000."

After considerable discussion the amendment was agreed to. Various other amendments were offered and agreed to, and the bill was then passed.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Interior inclosing a statement made by Maj. J. W. Powell, Director of the Geological Survey, in answer to a resolution of inquiry introduced by Mr. Stewart (Nev.) regarding the diversion of funds which had been appropriated for making an irrigation survey.

The communication was referred to the Committee on Irrigation.

The silver bill was then taken up, and consumed the day's session, the adjournment occurring at 6 p. m.

In the House the contested election case of McMillen vs. Turpin was taken up and considered, and consumed the day's session.

The minority resolution in favor of Turpin was rejected—yeas 114, nays 140; and the majority report adopted—yeas 130, nays 113; and Mr. McMillen appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office.

Mr. Morrill (Kan.) reported a disagreement of the Conference Committee on the Senate dependent pension bill. The House insisted on its amendment (providing for a service pension), and a further conference was ordered.

The House adjourned at 5:40 p. m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5.

In the Senate, among the bills reported from committee and placed on the calendar was the House bill to establish a National Military Park at the battlefield of Chickamauga. Also Senate bill appropriating \$300,000 for a monument in Washington City to Capt. John Ericsson, inventor of the Monitor, was placed on the calendar.

The silver bill was taken up, and Mr. Hisscock (N. Y.) spoke in opposition to free coinage. Mr. Sherman (Ohio) characterized the bill reported from the Finance Committee as a money grab, wandering without favor, and without compass.

Mr. Teller (Colo.) congratulated the country that the mask was off the faces of the so-called silver party.

Mr. Stewart (Nev.) declared that the amendment that demonized silver was never read in either House. Mr. Aldrich (R. I.) reminded Mr. Stewart that he had voted on the bill, after which the bill was over without action.

Mr. Blair (N. H.) introduced a bill to prohibit the exportation of alcoholic liquors to Africa and the islands of the Pacific Ocean; which was referred.

The Senate adjourned at 5:30 p. m.

In the House, Mr. McKinley (O.), from the Committee on Rules, reported a resolution providing that the House proceed immediately to the consideration of the silver bill, and that the consideration shall continue on Saturday at 3 p. m., when the previous question shall be considered as ordered; which was adopted.

The bill having been read, Mr. Conger (Iowa) asked the yeas and nays on a substitute. After some discussion the House adjourned until tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6.

In the Senate a new conference was ordered on the dependent pension bill, and Messrs. Davis (Miss.), Sawyer (Wis.), and Bledgett (N. J.) were appointed conferees on the part of the Senate.

Mr. Blair (N. H.) introduced a service and dependent pension bill. The service pension provides that every man who served 60 days or more during the late war, and was honorably discharged, shall be entitled to a monthly pension of one cent for each day's service; provided, however, that aside from any pension he may be entitled to under any other law, he shall not receive more than \$12.00. No service pension is to be more than \$12 per month and \$6 a month, and shall be allowed in addition to any other pension the applicant may be entitled to under any other law.

Mr. Blair (N. H.) introduced a bill to amend the dependent feature of the pension law, and to conform to the various other bills having this end in view. The lowest monthly rate of pension for dependency is fixed at \$6 and the highest at \$12, except that for a dependent child the rate is fixed at \$4, an increase of \$2 from the present rate.

The silver bill was again taken up and discussed at length. The adjournment took place at 5:40 p. m.

In the House a bill was passed opening to settlement a portion of the Fort Randall Military Reservation, in South Dakota.

Mr. Bryn (Ind.) was referred to the Committee on Appropriations a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior for information as to whether any deficiency exists in the appropriation for the payment of pensions for the current year, and that Congress may provide for the deficiency if it exists.

Mr. Turner (Ga.) introduced a bill to relieve soldiers engaged in Indian wars, or their widows, from the necessity of being generally in applying for pensions or bounty lands.

Mr. Pickler (N. Dak.) introduced a bill making it unlawful for any vessel clearing from any United States port for ports of Africa or the islands of the Pacific Ocean to take on board any liquor, and that the intention of landing them in any of the ports of those countries.

The silver bill was then discussed in Committee of the Whole, and occupied the day's session, the adjournment occurring at 6 p. m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7.

In the Senate, the following bills, among others, were taken from the calendar and passed:

House bill to erect a ship at the National Armory, Springfield, Mass., to cost not more than \$211,630.

House bill to prevent desertions from the Army by withholding part of the soldier's monthly pay as a deposit.

Senate bill to provide for the compulsory education of Indian children.

Private pension bills on the calendar were taken up and 120 were passed.

The following amendments to the river and harbor bill were proposed and referred to the Committee on Commerce:

By Mr. Moody (S. Dak.), appropriating \$1,200,000 for the improvement of the Missouri River from its mouth to the falls near Fort Benton.

By Mr. Cameron (Pa.), appropriating \$150,000 for the dredging of the Chesapeake River, for the removal of the obstructions, and the deepening, widening and straightening of the stream within the city of Johnston, Pa., and westward thereof.

The Senate adjourned at 5 p. m.

In the House, the silver bill occupied the day's session. Mr. Payson (Ill.) spoke at length. He said that the substitute would pass the House in obedience to a public sentiment, which he believed to be universal, and in favor of a larger use of silver as a money metal, and of a further increase of the currency of the country. In criticism of the Treasury bill he asserted that it practically demonized silver as a money metal, and established a gold standard upon the statute books. It wiped from the statute books the only law we had for the coinage of standard silver dollar.

He opposed the silver bill because it proposed to treat silver simply and purely as a merchantable commodity, and to fix (until Congress should change it) an open declaration that gold alone should be the standard of value, declared so by the supreme law of the land. The feature of bullion redemption was an argument for the silver bill.

Children Cry for

Pitcher's Castoria.

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A LACK OF PENSION MONEY.

It is stated at the Pension Office that the deficiency in the number of soldiers in the hands of the different Pension Agents, which has resulted in the announcement by the agent at Indianapolis that a large number of pensioners will be expelled to wait until the next year, is due to the unusually large number of allowances made by the Pension Office under the present Administration, and particularly since Gen. Grant's term of office. The great amount of allowances has been largely in original cases. There have been issued nearly 7,000 more original pensions than were issued during the last fiscal year, and the year just past.

The present measure did not satisfy him. Another drain upon the appropriation, it is said, was the act of March 1, 1890, which increased to \$72 per month all pensions for total disability rather than to have any of the propositions before the House (two) effect.

Mr. Hartine (Nev.) believed in the double standard, and when he said that, he said it in an absolute sense. He did not say he was in favor of having silver as a commodity and measuring it by gold. He believed that bimetalism could be reached only by the free coinage of both metals on exactly equal terms.

He yielded to no man in his devotion to the Republican party; but the first and highest duty of a Representative was to the country as a whole. Then his duty was to his constituents, and then to his party. If there was anything in the doctrine of the Republican party which prevented him from being a good Republican and yet a flat-footed free-coinage man, he did not know it.

Mr. Cannon (Ill.) said that he stood upon the platform of the Republican party. He had always favored the use of the two metals, and he would not willingly vote for any law that he believed would bring the country to the use of either the exclusion of the other, or that he would vote for the substitute because he believed that at the present time and under present conditions it was the best that could be secured, and would insure the use of both metals as money.

He thought the Callon redemption provision, by some gentlemen regarded as a stimulating block, was a wise one. Silver was not worth 16 to 1 of gold, and the free State alone could not make it so pending an international agreement. There were not 20 men on the floor who dared vote for free coinage if they believed the bill would become a law. Why? Because they knew the people in New York, Isaac and Abraham and Thomas—would buy up the bullion of the world, and rushing with it to the mints, take out \$126 in money for every dollar of silver bullion they had.

Mr. Anderson (Kan.) favored free coinage, and as the pending bill demonized silver he would not vote for it.

Mr. Allen (Miss.) defied gentlemen on the other side who favored free coinage to come up and prove their good faith. If they did, the Democrats would give them free coinage. They could not avoid themselves behind a Democratic President. The 51st Congress must be held responsible for its own acts.

Mr. Brewer (Mich.) said the bill met with his entire and hearty approbation, as it tended to bring together the coined gold dollar and the coined silver dollar.

Mr. Grosvenor (Ohio) characterized as fraudulent the pretense of the Democratic party that it had ever favored a free and unlimited coinage of silver. It had been the shuttle-cock of the Democratic dishonest method of politics.

Mr. McKinley (Ohio) said that the bill would authorize every dollar of the silver product of the United States. It provided, also, that the instant silver was on a parity with gold, that very instant there would be free and unlimited coinage of silver. Congress must see that the money provided for the redemption of the currency of silver, Congress must see that the money provided for the redemption of the currency of silver, Congress must see that the money provided for the redemption of the currency of silver.

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